

Message Text

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SUBJ: UK NEGATIVE DECISION ON 75-76 UNFDAC

REF: (A) STATE 144448; (B) LONDON 09534

1. SUMMARY: WE HAVE TAKEN STEPS TO PROMOTE ACTION BY UNFDAC AND INCB OFFICIALS TO TRY PERSUADE HMG MODIFY OR REVERSE ITS DECISION NOT TO CONTRIBUTE TO FUND FOR FISCAL YEAR 1975/76. IN THIS CONNECTION, UNFDAC'S ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR WELLMAN HAS EXPRESSED TO UK MISSION FUND'S DISMAY AT THIS DEVELOPMENT AND HAS OUTLINED IN DETAIL CASE FOR CONTINUING CONTRIBUTIONS. UK MISSION IS CONVEYING WELLMAN'S OBSERVATIONS TO LONDON. INCB SECRETARY DITTERT HAS TELEPHONED SIR HARRY GREENFIELD (FORMER INCB PRESIDENT) AND IS CONTACTING SIR FREDERICK MASON (CURRENT BRITISH MEMBER OF INCB) TO SOLICIT THEIR INTERVENTIONS WITH UK AUTHORITIES. END SUMMARY.

2. ASAP FOLLOWING RECEIPT REF A, WE TOOK STEPS TO PROMOTE ACTION BY UNFDAC AND INCB TO TRY PERSUADE HMG MODIFY OR REVERSE ITS DECISION NOT CONTRIBUTE TO FUND FOR 1975/76 FISCAL YEAR. IN THIS CONNECTION WE PROPOSED THAT UNFDAC'S ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR WELLMAN GO TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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LONDON TO ARGUE CASE FOR CONTINUED CONTRIBUTION. WE ALSO

SUGGESTED THAT INCB SECRETARY DITTERT TELEPHONE SIR HARRY GREENFIELD AND SIR FREDERICK MASON TO SOLICIT THEIR INTERVENTIONS WITH UK AUTHORITIES.

3. WELLMAN SAID THAT IN ABSENCE MARTENS HE COULD NOT GO TO LONDON. HOWEVER, HE WOULD SEE BURNS, THIRD RANKING OFFICER IN UK MISSION GENEVA WHO FOLLOWS UN NARCOTICS DEVELOPMENTS. WELLMAN DID SO JUNE 23 AND GAVE US FOLLOWING ACCOUNT OF HIS CONVERSATION WITH BURNS.

4. BURNS SAID HMG HAD DEFINITELY DECIDED SUSPEND ITS CONTRIBUTION BUT FOR FISCAL YEAR 1976/76 ONLY. NOTED THAT DECISION WAS MADE EXCLUSIVELY FOR FINANCIAL REASONS AND IMPLIED NO ADVERSE JUDGMENT ABOUT UNFDAC AND ITS PROGRAMS WHICH HMG CONTINUES SUPPORT. ADDED HMG INTENDS GIVE NO PUBLICITY TO THIS SUSPENSION. NOTED ALSO HE CONVEYED HMG'S DECISION ORALLY TO MARTENS AROUND TWO WEEKS AGO BUT TO DATE UK MISSION HAD NOT RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS FROM LONDON TO NOTIFY UNFDAC FORMALLY OF THIS DECISION.

5. IN RESPONSE WELLMAN'S QUERY, BURNS STATED HMG'S DECISION FOR 1975/76, WHICH WAS MADE MONTH OR SO AGO, WAS FINAL AND THERE WAS NO POSSIBILITY OF RECONSIDERATION. HE NOTED THAT FOREIGN OFFICE AND TREASURY HAD DECIDED MAKE NECESSARY SAVING IN EXTERNAL PAYMENTS BY ELIMINATING ENTIRELY FOR SINGLE YEAR SEVERAL SMALL CONTRIBUTIONS TO VARIOUS INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS. REASONING APPEARED BE THAT AFFECTED ACTIVITIES WOULD NOT BE UNDULY PREJUDICED BY ONE YEAR SUSPENSION. BURNS STRESSED, HOWEVER, THAT SUBJECT TO IMPROVEMENT IN UK FINANCIAL SITUATION, HMG INTENTION WAS TO RESUME CONTRIBUTIONS TO UNFDAC IN FISCAL YEAR 1976/77. TO THIS END BURNS SUGGESTED THAT FUND'S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SHOULD VISIT LONDON IN FALL OF 1975 AND AT THAT TIME SHOULD NOT ONLY RESUME CONTACT WITH HOME MINISTRY BUT SHOULD ALSO CONTACT NEW MINISTER FOR OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT. BURNS CONFIRMED THAT MORE AMPLE FUNDS FOR EXTERNAL ASSISTANCE ARE AVAILABLE FOR PROJECTS OF OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT, AND IT WAS THEREFORE DESIRABLE THAT UNFDAC DEMONSTRATE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IMPACT OF ITS MAJOR PROGRAMS AND SEEK OBTAIN FUNDING OF UK LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CONTRIBUTION FROM THAT SOURCE RATHER THAN LIMITING IT TO REGULAR BUDGETS OF FOREIGN AND HOME MINISTRIES.

6. WELLMAN PUT FORTH IN DETAIL CONSIDERATIONS FAVORING CONTINUED UK CONTRIBUTION TO UNFDAC. BURNS SAID HE WOULD PASS THESE OBSERVATIONS TO LONDON TOGETHER WITH UNFDAC'S EXPRESSION OF DISMAY THAT HMG CONSIDERS IT NECESSARY SUSPEND CONTRIBUTION FOR EVEN ONE YEAR.

7. CONSIDERATIONS ADVANCED BY WELLMAN IN FAVOR OF CONTINUING UK CONTRIBUTION TO UNFDAC ARE AS FOLLOWS:

A. SYMBOLIC VALUE AS AN EXAMPLE TO OTHER COUNTRIES OF ANNUAL UK CONTRIBUTION.

B. DANGER THAT OTHER COUNTRIES MIGHT FOLLOW UK EXAMPLE OF SUSPENDING OR REDUCING CONTRIBUTIONS BECAUSE OF FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES.

C. IMPORTANCE OF MAINTAINING LEVEL OF CONTRIBUTION OF EUROPEAN AND AMERICAN DEVELOPED COUNTRIES WHILE VIGOROUS EFFORT IS MADE TO INCREASE NUMBER OF CONTRIBUTORS AND LEVEL CONTRIBUTION OF CERTAIN COUNTRIES WITH GREATER CAPACITY TO CONTRIBUTE.

D. IMPERATIVE OF INCREASING CONTRIBUTIONS FROM NON-AMERICAN SOURCES IN ORDER TO HAVE ANY HOPE OF MAINTAINING AMERICAN CONTRIBUTION AT ITS PRESENT LEVEL.

E. IMPORTANCE OF JUND'S PROGRAM TO UK INTERESTS, IN PARTICULAR ITS SOUTHEAST ASIA PROGRAM FOR HONG KONG, ITS ME PROGRAMS IN PAKISTAN AND AFGHANISTAN AND TURKISH PROGRAM.

F. UNFDAC'S UNIQUE IMPORTANCE, IN PARTICULAR ITS CAPACITY TO ACT IN SITUATIONS IN WHICH NO UNILATERAL OR BILATERAL PROGRAM COULD SUCCEED, E.G., TURKEY, BURMA AND AFGHANISTAN.

G. CRITICAL STATE OF UNFDAC'S PROGRAM, WITH BREAK-THROUGHS IN CERTAIN AREAS AND CONSEQUENT NEED FOR CONTINUING AND EXPANDING FINANCIAL SUPPORT.

H. CLEAR RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CERTAIN UNFDAC PROGRAMS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF AREAS.

8. DITTERT TELEPHONED GREENFIELD JUNE 24. GREENFIELD READILY AGREED MAKE EFFORT PERSUADE HMG OFFICIALS OF IMPORTANCE CONTINUING CONTRIBUTION BY UK. INDICATED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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HE PLANNED LAY PARTICULAR STRESS ON IMPORTANCE UNFDAC PROGRAMS FOR UK AND WE INTERESTS HONG KONG AND ELSEWHERE. AGREED WITH DITTERT THAT UNFDAC PROGRAMS OF KEY IMPORTANCE TO WE AND SAID HE THOUGHT WHOLE MATTER OF ADEQUATE AND CONTINUING CONTRIBUTIONS TO UNFDAC SHOULD BE RAISED EEC. DITTERT IS PURSUING THIS IDEA WITH REUTER WITH VIEW FRANCE TAKING UP CAUSE WITHIN CONTEXT FURTHERANCE POMPIDOU INITIATIVE. DITTERT IS TELEPHONING SIR FREDERICK MASON JUNE 25.DALE

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